



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, TEXAS**

Honorary Retiree

Honorary retirees are prior service, discharged from their obligation and transferred to the Reserve component of the Uniformed Services. Honorary retirees served a minimum of eight years, were at least 37 years of age, but were unable to continue a military career in the Reserve components, therefore; they cannot qualify for retirement or an identification card, such as a "Gray Area" Reserve-Retiree, awaiting pay at age 60.

The DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge, issued to these members did not authorize retirement benefits. In the past, these honorary members were issued a DD Form 217, Certificate of Service, including Reserve retirement orders transferring to the retired Reserve section of the respective Reserve component. These documents authorized honorary retirees to be issued a manual identification card by former Pass & ID with base security offices. This card was paper-based with a plastic lamination on the DD Form 2 (Reserve) (gray or red color) and reflected no entitlements to medical benefits or shopping privileges as compared to today's retired military. The type of ID card issued to honorary retirees ceased at the Pass & ID Offices with the inception of the Real-time Automated Personnel Identification System.

Furthermore, today's computer-generated DD Form 2 (Reserve) (green, formerly red color) ID is not issued to honorary retirees from the RAPIDS. The Uniformed Services personnel community issues ID cards using the RAPIDS communication network to the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System. DEERS is the DOD Personnel Data Repository for determining ID card entitlements for qualifying members and their dependent family members.

The Sixth Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation (1988), recommended measures to prevent the inadvertent issuance of retiree ID cards, DD Form 2 (Reserve) (red and green color) and DD Form 2 (Retired) (blue color) to honorary retirees. Since December 1990, individuals who qualified as honorary retirees have been issued a Certificate of Retirement in lieu of receiving military ID cards.

Additionally, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991 enacted changes to Title 10, United States Code, by providing exchange, Morale, Welfare and Recreation privileges to certain members of the Ready Reserve, including members of the Retired Reserves awaiting pay at age 60. This meant the DD Form 2 (Reserve) (red) was no longer an identity card but a benefit and privilege ID card, issued from RAPIDS record verification through the DEERS database.

The Uniformed Services did not mass confiscate earlier issuance of the DD Forms 2 (Reserve) (red) identity card when the law was enacted, however; when an agency learns an honorary retiree has an ID card they are no longer entitled to, the recipient has been asked to surrender the card as there is no replacement.

Unless a Reserve member is a member of the Retired Reserve, awaiting pay at age 60 and enrolled in the DEERS database as a "Gray Area" retiree (referred to as a RESRET), they are not entitled to an ID card from the RAPIDS Program